category are promoted from E-3 to E-4 in two year's time and officers belonging to SC/ST category are not promoted even after completion of three to four years in E-3;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and what is the minimum eligibility period required for promotion from E—3 to E—4 for employees of general category and SC/ST category; and

(c) the number of officers promoted in two years' period from E-3 to E-4 in Corporate Office and Central Marketing Organisation (SAIL) during the years 1990 and 1991 and number of them who belong to SC/ST?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per the promotion policy of Steel Authority of India Limited, which is being followed in Corporate Office as well as Central Marketing Organisation, and applicable to both the general and SC/ST categories of executives, an officer must have a minimum service of 2 years in E-3 scale to be eligible to be considered for promotion to the E-4 scale. Promotions are given on the basis of performance appraisal ratings.

(c) Only one general category employee was promoted from E-3 to E-4 on completion of 2 years service in E-3, in the Corporate Office/Central Marketing Organisation during the years 1990-91.

SAIL contribution for earthquake victims of Uttar Pradesh

3457. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Steel Authority of India Limited has contributed a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs towards construction of a stadium in the District of Silchar, Assam; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Steel Authority of India Limited has contributed Rs. 5 lakhs to the Relief Fund meant for earthquake victims of Uttarkashi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has contributed an amount of Rs. 12 lakhs for construction of one of the blocks of the stadium built by the District Sports Association, Silchar.

(b) Yes, Sir. SAIL has donated G. C. sheets valued at Rs. 5 lakhs towards relief work for the earthquake victims of Uttarkashi.

Iron ore mines in Orissa

3458. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking any steps for modernisation in different iron-ore mines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), which is a Central Government Public Sector Undertaking, has taken up modernisation programme of Bolani Iron Ore Mines in Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 60 crores so as to get better quality product. The scheme provides for setting up of an Iron Ore processing plant with facilities of washing of Iron Ore.

Mini steel Plant in Tripura

3459. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up a mini steel plant of Rs. 155 crors Uptakhali, Tripura; and

(b) if so, the reasons for selecting Uptakhali for the purpose and the estimated annual production capacity of the proposed plant?